

Educator Quality Team Staff Report

M. Cambra and B. Gross attended the NASDTEC Annual Conference in Jacksonville. As usual, sessions were presented on a variety of topics relative to educator accreditation and licensure. In addition, there was much discussion on the next iteration of the NASDTEC Agreement which is due to be signed in 2010 to cover the 2010-2015 years. This year saw a rise in the number of Associate Member attendees, most of who come from the ranks of higher education.

In her capacity of chair of the Professional Preparation and Continuing Development Committee, M. Cambra was part of a presentation on the latest research project on online and distance learning opportunities throughout the country. Thirty-seven of the states have already responded through telephone interviews to questions relative to their states' policies, procedures, and practices in the area of distance and online learning. The final report from the researchers, Macro International, is due at the end of August.

The NASDTEC Executive Board, during its meetings prior to and following the conference, established goals to move the organization forward, particularly in the area of developing more of a national presence through partnerships with educational organizations who are working on similar goals such as using data to inform educator and administrator licensure and preparation, and what impact transforming schools will have on educator certification.

Licensing

The goal of the Licensing Workgroup is to provide Vermont's educators top quality service by helping educators understand and meet their licensing responsibilities and by applying licensing statutes, regulations and policies with integrity and fairness to all.

Renewals 2009: Renewals are rolling in. As of 6/17/09 we have issued 1351 renewals for 2009. This is expected to be a light year for renewals with only 1700 expected.

Transcript Reviews: We are currently working on the initial examination of transcript review requests that were received about 3 weeks ago.

Initial Applications: Initial applications are taking about two weeks to begin the initial review.

Provisional Licenses: Provisional requests from Superintendents are coming in at a fast pace, and they are starting to back up as we have lost the position that processes these applications.

L/RSB: Deb Giles has sent out all the invitations for the summer conferences and reservations are coming in daily. Deb and Bob will be presenting at the 6 conferences, which will keep us extremely busy during the month of July. Deb's employment has been extended until August 30, 2009 and Marta continues to explore ways with the commissioner to retain her.

Staff Issues: Bob Gross has thrown his name into the retirement incentive lottery and if he is one of the chosen 300 and has permission, he will retire in December.

ROPA

M. Richardson has been working diligently with the Design Team and with trainings for the ROPA teams who are scheduled to do reviews this summer and fall. With the maternity leaves of R. Otis and MB. McNulty, her workload has increased and EQ is appreciative of all her efforts to keep the process intact.

HOT OFF THE PRESS – We have just received news that MB. McNulty has given birth to Adele Elizabeth born on June 17th (underwater) at 3:43 am and who weighed in at 8 lbs. 3 oz and is 21 inches long.

Miscellaneous

Institutions of Higher Ed. were provided with contact information for their 2007-2008 cohort program completers (actually, information from the last 8 years was included) from this school year's educator census. This allows programs the opportunity to survey graduates and employers before the end of the school year.